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NEWHAVEN PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

Year ended

31st December, 1937.

NEWHAVEN,
14th February, 1938.

1937.

PORT SANITARY REPORT.

To the Members of the
Newhaven Port Sanitary Authority.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the Port of Newhaven during the year 1937.

During the year 1937 the health of the crews in the ships entering the Harbour has been very good. The only cases of accident and illness coming under my observation were as follows:-

January 26th.	S.S. Brighton.	Influenza.
January 30th.	S.S. Brighton.	Influenza.
February 28th.	S.S. Yew Forest.	Whitlow.
March 16th.	S.S. Ashley.	Bronchitis.
May 11th.	S.S. Versailles.	Sprained Wrist.

The permanent arrangements for the protection of the Port against the importation of Infectious Disease remain as described in my Annual Report for the year 1933.

The only foreign port with which Newhaven has any considerable traffic is Dieppe and the main risk of the importation of infectious disease is from Aliens arriving in this Country from Europe.

The ships entering the Port have been periodically inspected during the year 1937; 112 inspections having been carried out by the Sanitary Inspector and myself. Twelve minor defects were discovered and all remedied except one.

The only place for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their clothing is the Isolation Hospital which is situated about 1½ miles from the Port. Such cases are, however, of very rare occurrence.

ALIENS ORDER 1920.

During the year 1937, the number of Aliens entering the Port totalled 47,903, of whom 47,800 were allowed to land and 103 were rejected.

The Medical Inspection and Examination of Aliens arriving at the Port are regularly carried out by myself and my Deputy Dr. Neill.

The number of Aliens medically inspected during the year was 46,988, and the number submitted to Medical Examination was 947, of whom 6 were rejected for the following causes:-

Suspected Trachoma.	...	1.
Goitre.	...	2.
Gonorrhoea.	...	1.
Blindness.	...	1.
Injured Arm.	...	1.
Total	...	6.

PSITTACOSIS.

Cases of this disease having occurred in this Country, the importation of all birds of the species Psitticaformes was prohibited by the Parrots (Prohibition of Import) Regulations of May 20th 1930.

Apart from consignments sanctioned by special permit from the Ministry of Health, four other consignments of these birds arrived in the Port during the year 1937. They were all returned to Dieppe by the next boat.

THE FOREIGN MEAT AND UNSOUND FOOD REGULATIONS.

The chief imports into the Port of Newhaven consist of fruit and vegetables, including new potatoes from the Channel Islands. No meat, other than cooked, was imported during the year 1937. The following articles were condemned as unfit for consumption:- 89 packages of Spinach, 91 cases of Salads, 8 cases of Turnips and 1 case of Oysters.

PASSENGER SERVICE BETWEEN NEWHAVEN AND DIEPPE DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

NEWHAVEN TO DIEPPE.

Year.	No. of Voyages.	No. of Passengers.
1933.	755.	105,522.
1934.	749.	103,933.
1935.	751.	102,860.
1936.	761.	113,567.
1937.	797.	189,903.

DIEPPE TO NEWHAVEN.

Year.	No. of Voyages.	No. of Passengers.
1933.	755.	107,502.
1934.	749.	106,054.
1935.	752.	105,811.
1936.	760.	118,880.
1937.	797.	186,807.

1. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR 1937.

TABLE A.

	No.	Tonnage	Number Inspected. By the Medical Officer of Health.	Number Inspected. By the Sanitary Inspector.	Number reported to be defective.	Number of Vessels on which defects were remedied.	Number of vessels reported as having or having had, infectious disease on board during the voyage.
Foreign:-							
Steamers.			1	29	1	1	Nil
Motor.				1			
Sailing.							
Fishing.				5			
Total.	1224	734,261	1	35	1	1	Nil
Coastwise.							
Steamers.			1	61	4	3	Nil
Motor.				4	2	2	
Sailing.							
Fishing.				10	3	3	
Total.	867	192,079	1	75	9	8	Nil
Total Foreign & Coastwise	2091	926,340	2	110	10	9	Nil

11. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

TABLE B.

(a) Passenger Traffic During 1937.

No. of Passengers.	1st. Class.	2nd. Class.	3rd. Class.	Transmigrants.
Inwards.	9,897.	53,799.	123,111.	111.
Outwards.	9,626.	55,288.	124,989.	34.

(b) Cargo Traffic.

Chief Imports:- Manufactures of Silk, Cotton and Wool, Timber, Coal, Stone, Motor Cars, Machinery, Watches, Clocks, Chemicals, Brandy, Wine, Potatoes, Vegetables and Fruits.

Chief Exports:- Fish, Textiles, Machinery and Fur Skins.

111. Source of Water Supply.

The Source of the Water Supply for the Port and shipping is the well belonging to the Southern Railway Co. This well is sunk into the chalk at Denton and the water derived from it is of good quality.

1V. Port Sanitary Arrangements.

The arrangements in force remain the same as described in my Annual Report for 1933.

TABLE C.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM VESSELS.

Disease.	No. of Cases during 1937.		No. of Vessels Concerned.	Average No. of Cases for previous five Years.
	Passengers.	Crew.		
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

TABLE D.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS OCCURRING ON VESSELS DURING THE VOYAGE BUT DISPOSED OF PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.

Disease.	No. of Cases during 1937.		No. of Vessels Concerned.	Average No. of Cases for previous five years.
	Passengers.	Crew.		
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

RATS DESTROYED DURING 1937.

TABLE E.

(1) On Vessels.

Number of Rats.	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total in Year.
Black. Brown. Species not recorded Examined Infected with Plague.				MONTH NOT KNOWN.									2

TABLE F.

(2) In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses.

Number of Rats.	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total in Year.
Black Brown. Species not recorded Examined Infected with Plague.				MONTH NOT KNOWN.									48

HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES.

TABLE J.

Classification of Nuisances.

Nationality of Vessel.	Number inspected during 1937.	Defects of original Construction.	Structural defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.
British.	76	2	3	6
Other Nations	36	Nil.	Nil.	1

RATS.

The Cross Channel Steamers are periodically overhauled for the presence of rats, and a man is specially appointed by the Southern Railway Company to trap and poison rats on the quays and in the various warehouses.

My thanks are due to the Officials of the Southern Railway Company, and also to the Officials of the Customs and Home Office for their unfailing courtesy and the ready help extended to me by them in the execution of my duties.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

RODIE PARKHURST.

NEWHAVEN,
February 14th, 1938.